

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/671,344

Examiner

Kathleen J. Prunner

Applicant(s)

JACKSON ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to February 13, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 021304
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 1-12 is the inclusion in claim 1 of the lavatory basin having a concave-shaped bowl formed from pliable interwoven members, the bowl having a top and bottom surface, an upper annular peripheral edge and an opening formed in a lower portion, a first sealant layer coating the bowl bottom surface, the first sealant layer having a bottom surface, a fibrous cloth having a top and bottom surface, the fibrous cloth top surface adhered to the first sealant layer bottom surface, a second sealant layer coating the fibrous cloth bottom surface, and a third sealant layer coating the bowl top surface. None of the art cited disclose these concepts.

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 13-16 is the inclusion in claim 13 of the lavatory basin having a concave-shaped wicker bowl having a top and bottom surface, an upper annular peripheral edge and an opening formed in a lower portion, a first sealant layer comprising at least one coating applied to the bowl bottom surface, the first sealant layer having a bottom surface, a fibrous cloth having a top and bottom surface, the fibrous cloth top surface adhered to the first sealant layer bottom surface, a second sealant layer comprising at least one coating applied to the fibrous cloth bottom surface, a third sealant layer comprising at least one coating applied to the bowl top surface, and a cylindrically shaped drain pipe inserted through the opening formed in the bowl lower portion, the drain pipe including an annular collar disposed at a top end for fitting around the bowl lower portion opening and a downwardly extending tubular portion for aligning with a sewer drain. None of the art cited disclose these concepts.

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 17-20 is the inclusion in claim 17 of the steps of providing a concave-shaped bowl constructed from pliable interwoven members, the bowl having a top and bottom surface and an opening formed in a lower point of the bowl, applying a first sealant layer to the bowl bottom surface, the first sealant layer having a bottom surface, permitting the first sealant layer to become tacky, applying a fibrous cloth layer soaked in a wet curable sealant to the first sealant layer bottom surface, the fibrous cloth layer having a

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bottom surface, applying additional layers to the fibrous cloth bottom surface after it has hardened, permitting the additional sealant layers to cure, applying sealant layers to the bowl top surface, and permitting the sealant layers applied to the bow top surface to cure. None of the art cited disclose these concepts.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

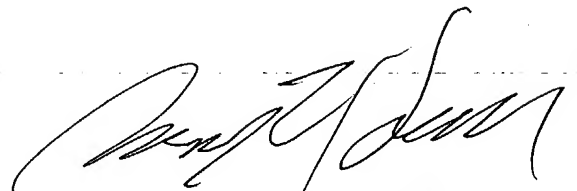
Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kathleen J. Prunner whose telephone number is 703-306-9044.
3. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory L. Huson can be reached on 703-308-2580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kathleen J. Prunner

September 29, 2004



GREGORY L. HUSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700